

IN MEMORIAM

These are the names of "Oldtimers" who have recently passed from our ranks:

Frank Donckers...Black Diamond

Bertha Habenicht...Ravensdale

Note: Bertha's picture appears in the 1980 calendar.

What's Happening

The HUD Grant funds are in evidence at the Depot. The Stationmaster's Bay is finished on the platform and the porch on the south side has been resingled. Wooden gutters were made in Auburn and have been installed. They were brought up on a TRM Lumber Yard truck--once again they have helped us with their big trucks and deserve a big bouquet!!!!

The Joe Wilkenings gave us some old-type wooden framed windows and they are replacing the

aluminum-framed modern one--which replaced the original wooden ones--follow me?? These are in the south-east corner room off the little covered porch.

Robert Allen donated 8 gallons of Red paint. It has been determined by our quiz that the majority of old-timers remember it originally as "definitely Red." The bottom layer of chipped -off paint seems to further substantiate that. So, when the rains stop, perhaps early next summer--we will have a glorious Red Depot.

Another sum of money coming from County Executive John Spellman's office in the amount of \$500.00 bought us a wood/coal burning Parlour stove for the southeast corner room and a typewriter with special large Primary type to use with exhibited materials.

Calendars

Our 5th Annual BDHS Appointment Calendar is printed and for sale again. The price is still \$4.00 Send \$5.00 to our box No 232 for each one mailed to you or as a neat Christmas gift to a friend. This is our biggest fund-raiser and each Calendar sold puts us closer to realizing a restored Depot and Historical Museum for us and future generations to enjoy. We still have a few back-years at the same price. Most of the merchants in and around Black Diamond have them for sale.

Thank you..Thank you

To William Kelso of the Kelso Construction Company, Mercer Island is extended a sincere thank you for the lumber recently donated to the Depot effort. We are most grateful for the useful gift.

B. D. H. S. Newsletter

Published by the Black Diamond Historical Society a non-profit corporation.

Membership fees, which include a subscription to this newsletter are as follows:

- Annual.....\$ 2.00
- Lifetime..... 30.00
- Family Lifetime..... 40.00
- Business Annual..... 15.00
- Business Lifetime.....150.00

Send dues to: Box 232  
Black Diamond, Wa. 98010

Editor.....Norma Gumsen  
Box 288  
Black Diamond, Wa. 98010

The BDHS Memorial Fund is growing and is kept in a special savings account, drawing interest until the Society decides in which way to best use this particular fund. Perhaps for a Bandstand or Landscaping at the Depot.....or what is your idea? Suggestions are always welcomed.

Bouquets to you, Robert "Boone" Glackin of Fairfield, Kentucky (a Society Member) for taking the time to write to me--how I enjoy the kind words along the way.

Another item has come into the Museum collection--a solid brass steam whistle. And does it ever work! (ask Carl Steiert who hasn't heard right since he hooked it up to an air compressor) The whistle was found at Boots Tavern by Doug and Lou Isman, the new owners and donated by Alford McNamars of Black Diamond.

### Labor Day

Our float in the Labor Day Parade was a larger-than life replica of our famous 1980 calendar. It was beautifully done by our team of member-artists Les and Elaine Griffin. It was wrapped in plastic against the rain and is sturdy enough to use again by simply changing the year. It was awarded a trophy. The rain held off for most of the parade, but the rest of the celebration was rained out.

### REMINDER

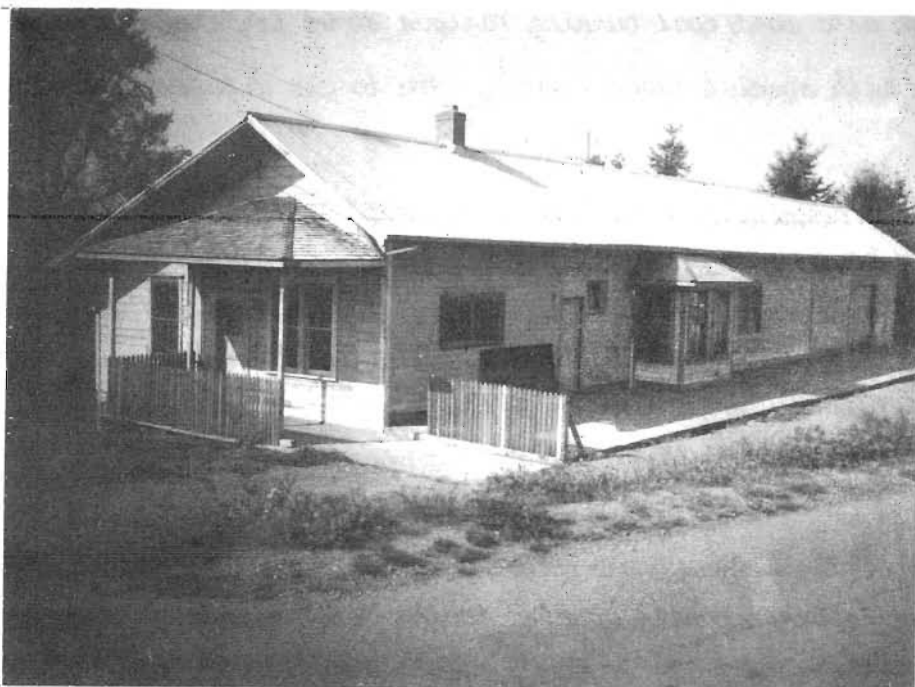
The next issue will have a final reminder of the 1980 dues. There will be a place for a red check mark for memberships not renewed by then and that will be the last newsletter sent to those not renewing. Memberships remain as listed on the front page. Anyone hearing of any member who has not received their copy in spite of being current in dues might check and see if we have their latest address or a correct one. Several newsletters have been returned because of no forwarding addresses.

### Donations

Thank you to Sophie Holly for giving us a depot-style bench, and to the following for very meaningful and useful pictures, Verna Thompson, Tom & Edith Davies, and Maxine Maulsby. Vernice Conrad of Tacoma sent a Labor Day ribbon dated 1913. All articles are appreciated.

### November Meeting Notice

In place of the regular business meeting, Nigel Adams of Green River College will present the very interesting video tape on the "History of Wilkeson". Those who missed it at the first local showing will be pleased to hear this. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall on Nov. 12.



Once again, let us remind everyone that although we are not open as a museum, we are waiting with open arms to receive any mementos-photo, printed material, household items, clothes, furniture and the list goes on and on. Any item used by those who lived in the Black Diamond area in the last 100 years--either in their homes, at work or leisure. They will be gratefully acknowledged..carefully catalogued and specially taken care of. Most everything will eventually find a place to be displayed and will be appreciated by everyone who comes to our Depot Museum. All members should be aware of and see that these historical items are not destroyed or lost to us forever. If transportation is a problem, get in touch with any BDHS officer, who will be delighted to arrange to bring it to the Museum.



### Christmas Open House

It was decided at the last regular meeting in October to hold our first Open House at the Depot on Sunday, December 9th. For such a festive occasion we will have a cozy fire in our new stove. Plans are being made to allow time for all members to come and share a fellowship which the coming of Christmas means. It is hoped that the rooms will be nearly restored and if not, will show the challenge that is there. We also plan to have some historical items on exhibit. It is hoped that the area members will lend a hand, as there is a great deal to be done to put this all together. With everyone's help there should be lots of food..fun..and much reminiscing. See you December 9th Bring the family-a friend-the children and join us for an old-time Christmas Open House!!! We will have calendars for sale for that last-minute Christmas gift. This will be in lieu of our regular December 10th meeting.

#### A Message from the President.....

The Black Diamond Historical Society is going into the fifth year of its existence. During these past years much work has been done. It is an organization which is unique in that the biggest per cent of members are not residents of the area. This, of course, makes the Group more reliant upon the local members to do the actual labor both physical and mental. The attendance at the monthly meetings has much to be desired in spite of the fact that an effort is made at each meeting to bring to light some part of the Town's past. If you were to attend a meeting you would find that they are very easy to take part in. We try to keep them in the realm of a "Big Family" which is how it was in the Past that we are trying to reconstruct. The work on the Depot is going ahead but very slowly. We meet every Thursday at 9 a.m. and consider it a crowd if 5 men show up! A special thank you to the following persons is in order: Norma Gumsen for work on the Newsletter and for distributing calendars to the business houses. Grant Griffin for his work on the Depot wiring. Elaine Griffin for attending many County meetings and finding the source of several Grants. Norman Gumsen for working on the slide show and last but not least, Ted Barner, Tom Maks and Frank Guidetti for showing up faithfully on Thursday.

Carl Steiert

SPARKLER NOTES

A special word of thanks to Elsie Marchetti (Thompson) for allowing us to use her beautifully bound copies of the High School paper the "Sparkler" containing issues from 1934 thru 1938. The following is an item from Nov. 1937:

Modesto, perhaps better known as Bunky or John Banchemo, born June 27, 1918 of Italian parents. The boy, Modesto was so surprised when he was born that he could neither walk or talk for more than a year after!!

Playing the harmonica and being nice to a certain girl are his favorite pastimes. You'd never guess his favorite movie star...Would you believe it! Stepanfetchit!!!!

Vital Statistics

Did you know....there are 235 members in the BOHS?....the following is a list of the

Lifetime members:

- |                               |                           |  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Mrs. Harold Almy              | Frank Gngurich            | Daisy Swanson                            |
| Donald Botto                  | Myrna Hawk                | Pat Sternig                              |
| Ed Banchemo                   | Mark Hesselback           | Val Sternig (deceased)                   |
| Edith Banchemo                | A.T. "Chick" Kravagna     | Carl Steiert                             |
| Mrs. Fred Benedetti           | Cut Kravagna              | Ann Steiert                              |
| Modesto Banchemo              | Josephine Kinkade         | Thomas Spaight                           |
| Agnes Bissig                  | Mary Keehner (Savicke)    | Evan Thomas                              |
| Ralph Banchemo                | Mrs. Fred Klingback       | Florence Thomas                          |
| Marion Blair                  | Robert Kuzaro             | Earl Upton                               |
| Gladys Cobb                   | William Luke              | Elsie Upton                              |
| Jack Chilcott                 | Betty Luke                | James Vernarelli (first lifetime member) |
| Mary Chilcott                 | Esther Loscar             | Esther Van Der Heyden                    |
| Jules Dal Santo               | Evegen Lushing            | Muriel Wing                              |
| Gertrude Dal Santo (deceased) | Jane M. Loken (Gallagher) | Louis Zumek                              |
| Pat Earley                    | Frank Manowski            | Ruth Zumek                               |
| Charles Falk                  | Evan Morris               | Frank Zumek                              |
| Betty Falk                    | Audrey Mendenhall         | Lois Zumek                               |
| Norman Gumsen                 | Loran Roulst              | Sam Zinter                               |
| Norma Gumsen                  | Mary Jane Roulst          | Elizabeth Zinter                         |
| David Garrett                 | Walter Riverside          | Diana Bertagni (deceased)                |
| Florence Garrett              | Mrs. S.G. Rodway          |  |
| Elaine Griffin                | Frank Roulst              |  |
| Leo Griffin                   | Ethel Roulst              |  |
| Dwight Garrett                | Albert Rossi              |  |
| Doris Garrett                 | O.V. Swanson              |  |

From the Editor's desk.....

Well, as 1979 comes to a close, we have seen some of the fruits of our labors taking shape around and inside the Depot. We hope all the old-timers from all over this country will have a warm tug at their hearts as they see our Depot--lovingly restored--one of the last of its kind left to shelter a collection of memorabilia from a coal-mining community in the foothills of Mt. Rainier. I don't know about you --but I can hardly wait to see it in all its glory painted Red!!

We have earned quite a sum of money, with our Antique Appraisal and Calendars. We have also been fortunate to receive grants and gifts from various government agencies, but as you all know--money doesn't go far these days. We will need a continuing supply. The need for both money and helping hands goes on and on.....But how rewarding it all is

See you at the Depot on December 9th.....Watch the papers for more details.

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